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# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)



Applicant's or agent's file reference XA1254	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/PEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/GB 03/01382	International filing date (day/month/year) 28.03.2003	Priority date (day/month/year) 19.04.2002
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC B64C25/16		
Applicant BAE SYSTEMS PLC et al.		

- This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
- This REPORT consists of a total of 6 sheets, including this cover sheet.
  - ☐ This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e. sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I ☒ Basis of the opinion
- II ☐ Priority
- III ☐ Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV ☐ Lack of unity of invention
- V ☒ Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI ☐ Certain documents cited
- VII ☐ Certain defects in the international application
- VIII ☐ Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand  09.10.2003	Date of completion of this report  29.06.2004
Name and mailing address of the International preliminary examining authority:   European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	Authorized Officer  Estrela y Calpe, J Telephone No. +31 70 340-2689 

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY  
EXAMINATION REPORT**

International application No. **PCT/GB 03/01382**

**I. Basis of the report**

1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application (*Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)*):

**Description, Pages**

1-15 as originally filed

**Claims, Numbers**

1-14 as originally filed

**Drawings, Sheets**

1/10-10/10 as originally filed

2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

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5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

*(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)*

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

**V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-14
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	
	No: Claims	1-14
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-14
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

**see separate sheet**

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**Re Item V**

**Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement.**

- 1 The following document is referred to in this communication; the numbering will be adhered to in the rest of the procedure:

D1: EP-A-1 129 938 (BOEING CO) 5 September 2001 (2001-09-05)

- 2 The present application does not meet the requirements of Article 33 PCT, because the subject-matter of **claim 1** is not new in the sense of Article 33 (2) PCT.

- 2.1 Document D1 (See figs 2A-2C) discloses an aircraft landing gear door assembly including a plurality of doors (42, 44) movable between open positions, in which landing gear can be deployed through an aperture, and closed positions, in which the doors are closed across the aperture, the plurality of doors including a first door (44) and a second door (42) adjacent to the first door in the closed positions of the doors, the first door (44) being so mounted that its movement from its closed position to its open position involves movement of at least part of the first door (44) through space which is occupied by the second door (42) in its closed position and vacated by the second door (42) in its open position.

All the features of claim 1 are therefore known from D1.

- 3 **Dependent claims 2-14** do not appear to contain any additional features which, in combination with the features of any claim to which they refer, meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty, Article 33 (2) the reasons being as follows:
- 3.1 Claim 2: D1 (See column 11, lines 12 and 13) shows that first door (44) is mounted for fixed-axis rotational movement about a first generally longitudinal axis (90).
- 3.2 Claim 3: D1 (See fig. 2C) discloses that the first generally longitudinal axis (90) is disposed at a location vertically spaced above the level of the aperture (58).
- 3.3 Claim 4: D1 (See fig. 2A) shows that the first generally longitudinal axis (90) is

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disposed in a region overlying the locations of adjacent edges of the first (44) and second (42) doors when they are closed.

- 3.4 Claim 5: D1 (See column 11, lines 12 and 13) also shows that the second door (42) is mounted for fixed-axis rotational movement about a second generally longitudinal axis (66).
- 3.5 Claim 6: D1 also discloses a linkage mechanism (49) and a prime mover (48), the linkage mechanism (49) connecting the plurality of doors to the prime mover (48) such that the prime mover(48) is effective to operate all the plurality of doors.
- 3.6 Claim 7: D1 implicitly discloses that the prime mover could comprise a linear actuator (See also column 13, lines 31 and 32), one stroke of the actuator in one direction being effective to move the doors from the closed positions to the open positions and one stroke of the actuator in the opposite direction being effective to move the doors from the open positions to the closed positions.
- 3.7 Claim 8: D1 (See figs. 4A-4C) also shows that the plurality of doors includes a third door (133) mounted for movement between closed and open positions, the first (44) and third doors (133) defining a pair of doors on opposite sides of the aperture.
- 3.8 Claim 9: D1 (See figs. 4A-4C) shows fourth door (132) adjacent to the third door (133) in the closed positions of the doors, the fourth door (132) mounted for movement between closed and open positions, the third door (133) being so mounted that its movement from its closed position to its open position involves movement of at least part of the third door (133) through space which is occupied by the fourth (132) door in its closed position and vacated by the fourth door (132) in its open position.
- 3.9 Claim 10: D1 (See figs. 4A-4C) also discloses that the third door (133) is mounted for fixed-axis rotational movement about a third generally longitudinal axis (154)
- 3.10 Claim 11: D1 (See figs. 4A-4C) shows that the third generally longitudinal axis (154) is disposed at a location vertically spaced above the level of the aperture
- 3.11 Claim 12: D1 (See figs. 4A-4C) shows that the third generally longitudinal axis (154) is disposed in a region overlying the locations of adjacent edges of the third

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(133) and fourth (132) doors when they are closed.

3.12 Claim 13: the fourth door (132) is mounted for fixed-axis rotational movement about a fourth generally longitudinal axis (140).

3.13 Claim 14: D1 shows an aircraft including a landing gear door assembly according to any preceding claim.

All the features of dependent claims 2-14 are therefore also known from D1.